

Message Text

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ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 SS-15 SY-10 EA-11 EUR-25 RSR-01 RSC-01

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R 051418Z JUL 73

FM AMEMBASSY KAMPALA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2783

C O N F I D E N T I A L KAMPALA 2172

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR US UG

SUBJECT: JULY 4 RECEPTION (1973 EDITION)

1. JULY 4 RECEPTION THIS YEAR WAS HIGHLY SUCCESSFUL. NO UNTOWARD INCIDENTS EXCEPT TWO MINOR ONES MENTIONED BELOW. WE SHIFTED TO MORE TRADITIONAL (FOR KAMPALA) EVENING AFFAIR, WITH WIVES INCLUDED. ATTENDANCE APPROXIMATELY WHAT WE EXPECTED, AROUND 206. THIS MADE UP MAINLY OF BIP CORPS (66), USG (27), MISSION LOCALS (29), PRIVATE AMCITS (76). UGANDAN ATTENDANCE MINIMAL, WHICH NO SURPRISE: NYANGWESO, KIINGI, GOWA, NTIMBA, OSEKU, PLUS THREE UNINVITED MILITARY GUMSHOES IN MUFTI THERE TO OBSERVE OTHER UGANDANS. ETIANG AND PRINCES ELIZABETH SENT REGRETS, AS DID CHINESE.

2. WE HAVE RECEIVED MANY COMPLIMENTS, MAINLY FROM DIPLOMATS, ON GAIETY AND GOOD AMBIANCE OF PARTY. WE ACCOUNT FOR THIS BY: (A) PRESENCE FIFTY-PIECE UGANDAN ARMY BAND, WHICH PROVIDED BY GOU AT OUR REQUEST AND WHICH PLAYED LIVELY AIRS THROUGHOUT EVENING; (B) HIGHLY EDIBLE CANAPES, INSTEAD OF GANGRENOUS ITEMS USUALLY SUPPLIED BY CATERERS AT OTHER NATIONAL DAYS; (C) SYMPATHY FOR US IN LIGHT AMIN'S MOST RECENT SPATE OF ILL-TIMED AND NASTY TELEGRAMS; (D) DELIGHT THAT THERE ARE STILL ENOUGH AMERICANS AROUND HERE TO STAGE A LARGE RECEPTION; (E) TRADITIONAL EASY-GOING AMERICAN HOSPITALITY; (F) MOVING CEREMONIAL LOWERING OF FLAG BY THREE MARINES IN DRESS BLUES AT SCHEDULED END OF RECEPTION WHILE ANTHEM PLAYED BY BAND. THERE WERE NO

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TOASTS OR SPEECHES. LAST GUESTS DEPARTED HOUR AND A HALF

LATER.

3. TWO UNTOWARD INCIDENTS: (A) FOR SECURITY REASONS WE DID NOT PERMIT CARS TO ENTER RESIDENCE DRIVEWAY, WHICH IN ANY CASE WAS MOSTLY OCCUPIED BY BAND. DEAN OF CORPS, FRENCH AMBASSADOR, REFUSED TO LEAVE HIS CAR FOR FIVE MINUTES WHILE HE AND HIS CHAUFFEUR ARGUED WITH UGANDAN POLICEMAN (ONE OF NINE PROVIDED BY GOU) WHO WAS CARRYING OUT ORDERS NOT TO PERMIT CARS THROUGH GATE. AMBASSADOR FINALLY ACCEPTED DEFEAT AND ENTERED RECEPTION ON FOOT. (B) KGB STATION CHIEF GOT PLASTERED, REFUSED TO LEAVE RECEPTION EVEN AT 10:30, AND HAD TO BE DRAGGED AWAY BY AN EMBASSY OFFICER SO THAT WE COULD CALL IT A DAY.

4. ADDITIONAL DETAILS BY OFFICIAL-INFORMAL TO COOTE, AF/E.
KEELEY

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NNN

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